I believe you are trying. But tell me where do you go to get help for the innocent children. She cannot go on medicaid or medicare, because she has not worked and not put anything into the system. She will never be able to read, drive or get around on her own. I realize that technology may be available in years to come that will be beneficial to her, but what is going to happen to her now.

I hope that you will be able to read this. I know that we are just a small amount of the millions you must hear from daily, but I just couldn't sit and do nothing with my distress and care for this beautiful little girl who is struggling to live.

God bless you and your family. May you gain the wisdom and the ability to lead us to a better way of life for everyone.

Respectfully yours,

MARY F. DAVIS.•

BILL SMULLIN HONORED

• Mr. HATFIELD. Mr. President, the broadcasting and cable industry will honor an Oregon legend this fall, when television pioneer Bill Smullin will be inducted into the Broadcasting and Cable Hall of Fame.

Bill's life is remembered for his contributions and achievements, including the establishment of broadcast and cable television in southern Oregon and northern California. In 1930, Bill Smullin founded Oregon-California Broadcasting, Inc., and later began the fist VHF television station in Oregon. His company provided cable television in the region by transmitting signals via microwave from Portland and San Francisco to southern Oregon.

Those of us who had the honor of knowing Bill have fond personal memories. He was as giving to the community as to his friends. I know his family is pleased that he is being afforded this prestigious professional honor and send my congratulations to them.•

A TRIBUTE TO RALPH O. BRENNAN

• Mr. BREAUX. Mr. President, I rise today to pay tribute to a fellow Louisianian, Mr. Ralph O. Brennan, who will be honored August 4 by the Louisiana Restaurant Association for his distinguished career in the food service industry. A member of the world-famous Brennan restaurant family of New Orleans, Mr. Brennan has long exemplified a commitment to community service, participatory democracy and creating opportunities for all Americans.

He has diligently served, and continues to serve, the $290 billion food service industry and its 9.4 million employees. A past president of the Louisiana Restaurant Association, he currently is chairman of the board and president of the National Restaurant Association, a major trade group here in Washington. He is also a trustee of the Association's educational foundation, and will be an industry delegate to the first White House Conference on Travel and Tourism in October 1995. In all of these capacities he urges independent restaurateurs from around the country to participate fully in the democratic process by getting to know their elected representatives at every level of government and then making it their responsibility to keep those officials informed. He facilitates their involvement through a toll-free hotline, numerous personal appearances and—perhaps most important—leading by example, through frequent visits to his Members of Congress and, on occasion, delivering testimony before congressional committees.

With his sister, Cindy, Mr. Brennan owns and operates two award-winning restaurants in the New Orleans French Quarter, thereby helping to preserve the rich culinary heritage of that great city which his family has successfully endeavored to do for three generations. But, as an industry leader, he is determined to preserve far more than just a great family tradition. Mr. Brennan has dedicated his life to preserving the boundless opportunities that food service affords individuals the rest of society could ignore, like recent immigrants, those without education or professional skills, and those on public assistance. Entry-level restaurant positions—washing dishes, bussing tables, assisting with food preparation—are a proven first step up a viable career ladder for millions of Americans; in fact, 60 percent of today's restaurant owners and managers started out in what some unknowing and insensitive people might refer to as dead-end restaurant jobs. In the restaurant business, upward mobility is the rule rather than the exception.

Mr. President, as this Congress continues its debate on welfare reform, I salute Mr. Brennan for working to ensure that the unmatched employment and training opportunities afforded by the food service industry will be something all Americans can be proud of in the future.•

CALIFORNIA: A SOCIETY THAT CUTS CHILD WELFARE BUT BOOSTS JAILS

Mr. SIMON. Mr. President, I do not believe I have ever met Prof. Robert C. Fellmeth of the University of San Diego, but I read what he had to say in the Los Angeles Times about cutting back on assistance to the poor while, at the same time, we hand largess to the wealthy.

Statistics differ somewhat, but the California situation mirrors the national situation.

If we are doing what is politically popular, I do not know, but what we are doing is certainly wrong.

What we need is not Senators and House Members who follow the latest public opinion poll on tax cuts or anything else, but people who try to lead, and sometimes do the unpopular, in order to reduce poverty in our country, to improve education and to do the things that are needed for a better future.

The incredible increase in prison construction and incarceration has done nothing to decrease the crime rate in our country. If putting people in prison reduced the crime rate, we would have the lowest crime rate in the world, with the possible exception of Russia.

While Professor Fellmeth zeroes in on the California situation, it is worthwhile for my House and Senate colleagues to read what he has to say because they will find a striking similiarity between the California action and the Federal action.

I ask that his statement be printed in the RECORD.

The material follows:

[From the Los Angeles Times, July 5, 1995]

CALIFORNIA: A SOCIETY THAT CUTS CHILD WELFARE BUT BOOSTS JAILS

(By Robert C. Fellmeth)

Despite what we often hear from the governor and the Legislature, spending for the welfare of our children has been in steady decline.

An example: The governor claims to have given politically popular K–12 public education "high priority" and "saved it from cuts" for the last several years. But figures from the second annual Children's Budget, completed by the Children's Advocacy Institute, show a steady decline each year, including proposed spending for 1995–96.

At the federal level, Congress proposes to change child spending from "entitlements" based on how many children qualify for assistance to "block grants," set at a static figure for five years. The Republican leadership contends that such a policy will curb what it calls "runaway spending." In contrast, the Children's Budget reveals that such a freeze means substantial reductions year to year, imposed without consideration of need or consequences.

Budgets based on raw numbers, or numbers with only inflation or only population changes considered—but not adjusted by both—slowly but inexorably squeeze out infrastructure investment. In California this failure has allowed a largely undiscussed disinvestment in children to accumulate over the past six years.

From 1989–90 to the current year, Aid to Families With Dependent Children has been cut 20%, the three child-related Medi-Cal accounts an average of 23% and public education 7.5%

The consequences in terms of flesh and blood are momentous: The Children's Budget reveals that AFDC for 1.8 million children in California has been cut from close to the federal poverty line to only 75% of that wholly inadequate amount. The governor now proposes to reduce AFDC to just 64% of the poverty-line figure, posing a clear danger of malnutrition and permanent health damage. Wilson also proposes further cuts in AFDC assistance after six months of help; the Republican House would cut children off altogether after two years if Mom does not have a job.

Ironically, the same gradual suffocation has been applied to GAIN, the major program providing child care and job training for AFDC mothers. Here there is a 9% decline from 1989 and a proposed further cut of 12%.

The typical AFDC recipient—contrary to public perception—is 29, white, recently divorced, with two children and no child support. Her problem is not a desire for welfare dependency but the far more prevalent dilemma of paternal abandonment. Is it relevant that childcare help and job training, without which she does not have a chance, have been cut? Less than 10% of AFDC parents get child-care help.